



Town of Arlington, Massachusetts
730 Massachusetts Ave., Arlington, MA 02476
Phone: 781-316-3000

webmaster@town.arlington.ma.us

6_11_13 Minutes

Park and Recreation Commission
Minutes
Tuesday, June 11, 2013 @ 7:00 PM
Approved

The Park and Recreation Commission came to order at 7:05 PM on the first floor of the Arlington Senior Center on Tuesday, June 11, 2013.

Members in attendance included: Leslie Mayer, Shirley Canniff, Don Vitters, Jen Rothenberg. Also in attendance was Director of Recreation Joseph Connelly. Jim Robillard was not in attendance.

There were no members from the public.

Approval of Minutes

Ms. Canniff motioned to approve the minutes, seconded by Ms. Rothenberg and approved 4-0.

Open Forum – Public Comments

No public comments.

Arlington Youth Baseball/Softball – Buck Field Renovation

Arlington Youth Baseball/Softball hope to come to a future meeting with more details about the remaining items from the renovation (scoreboard and landscaping).

Park Signs – Standardizing of Signs

Mr. Connelly spoke to Clara Batchelor of CBA. Since Florence Avenue playground will be the first implementation, Clara will put together some sign design options for the Commission to review. She understands the scope and will put together a proposal.

Capital Improvement Update

Florence Avenue Playground – Three different color options for the new Landscape Structures equipment were discussed. The Commission agreed that Option 1 (silver, blue, tangerine, green) would be the best option. The ADA design standards do not call out specific requirements for the transition points for the visually impaired. Reflective edging tape can be added. Mr. Vitters pointed out that the colored rubberized surfacing can be decided at a later date. Mr. Connelly will order equipment. The time frame still stands with a July 8th start date with temporary fencing installed a week prior. Mr. Connelly will meet with the DPW to discuss the sidewalk.

Buck and Summer Street Field Safety Netting – Mr. Connelly stated that the netting is in. Installation has been delayed due to the rain. Mr. Connelly is hoping it will be installed by the end of the week.

Capital Request for FY 2014 – ADA study, Hibbert and North Union Spray Pool will be discussed in September. Mr. Connelly stated that playground inspections will need to be completed for safety and compliance.

Reservoir Improvements

The Reservoir needs major improvements and the request for funding through the Capital Plan is several years away. The Commission discussed making a priority list of improvements to include potentially re-paving the parking lot, improvements to the beach area, fencing, mechanicals in the bath house, and design improvements. The entire property needs to be looked at. Ms. Mayer will put together a draft survey to get public input. The Commission talked about running some events at the Reservoir. A suggestion was made to make camp special events, like the sand castle contest, open to the public and to add other events. Mr. Connelly will talk to the Town Manager about taking the necessary steps to start looking at the improvements and about putting a percentage of revenue aside into a maintenance fund.

Off-Leash Dog Review

Mr. Connelly stated that there were five citations in the month of May, including three at Menotomy Rocks Park. All agreed this is a step in the right direction. Mr. Connelly will start asking for a monthly report.

No decisions have been made in regard to the Thorndike OLRA age restriction. This will be put on the July 9, 2013 agenda.

Special Requests

Friends of Waldo Park Picnic – Picnic would be held on June 22nd with a rain date of June 23rd from 5:30 PM to 9:00 PM. An unveiling of the tree stump sculpture is planned. Ms. Rothenberg motioned to approve, seconded by Ms. Canniff and approved 4-0.

There is a Spy Pond Music Festival planned and no permits have been obtained. Park and Rec has no involvement, however, Mr. Connelly will inform the organizers of the noise by-laws and will make the police and fire departments aware that this is happening.

Rink and Recreation Update

Rink – Roller skating has started and the facility can be booked for birthday parties. Mr. Connelly stated that he is in the process of collecting marketing monies for advertising signs hung within the rink. In the future, marketing money will be collected up front as there have been some difficulties this year receiving payment.

Recreation – Mr. Connelly is hoping for nice weather to pull in money from the sale of the Reservoir tags. Kayak Program is doing great. Archery Program was very popular and it will be offered again in the Fall. The Kid Care open house was held and went very well with 57 kids already enrolled for the Fall.

Commission Liaison Reports

Ms. Rothenberg asked for clarification on term expirations. She would also like to see descriptions of the different roles and be more official.

Mr. Connelly received approval and will advertise for two Associate Commission Members.

Other Business

Mr. Connelly shared a proposal from the Consensus Building Institute (CBI). They would like to provide an assessment of goals for the Park and Recreation Commission. The Town Manager will advertise for the Associate Members. The associate members can be brought into the assessment as well. Mr. Connelly will talk to the Town Manager and see when the best time to perform the assessment would be.

Ms. Canniff motioned to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Vitters and approved 4-0. The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted:
Joseph Connelly, Director of Recreation